

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NOS. 2003-278-C, 2011-318-C, and 2012-352-C - ORDER NO. 2013-14

JANUARY 15, 2013

IN RE: Docket No. 2003-278-C – Application of)	ORDER APPROVING
Telrite Corporation for a Certificate of Public)	ASSET PURCHASE
Convenience and Necessity to Provide)	AGREEMENT
Resold Intrastate Interexchange)	
Telecommunications Services within the)	
State of South Carolina)	
)	
Docket No. 2011-318-C – Application of)	
Applewood Communications Corporation for)	
a Certificate of Public Convenience and)	
Necessity to Provide Resold Interexchange)	
Telecommunications Services throughout the)	
State of South Carolina and for Alternative)	
Regulation)	
)	
and)	
)	
Docket No. 2012-352-C – Application of)	
Telrite Corporation and Applewood)	
Communications Corporation for Approval)	
of an Asset Purchase Agreement)	

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-310 (Supp. 2011), this matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the Application of Telrite Corporation (“Telrite”) and Applewood Communications Corporation (“Applewood”) (collectively “Applicants”) for Approval of an Asset Purchase Agreement. Under this Agreement, Telrite will acquire substantially all of the assets of

Applewood, including, but not limited to, Applewood's customer accounts in South Carolina.

Telrite is a Georgia corporation with principal offices located at 4113 Monticello Street, Covington, Georgia 30014. Telrite is a certified long distance telecommunications resale provider in South Carolina.¹

Applewood is a Delaware corporation with principal offices located at 1057 Bill Tuck Highway, Suite 224, South Boston, VA 24592. Applewood is a certified long distance telecommunications resale provider in South Carolina.²

According to the Application, the acquisition will consolidate the business and customer accounts of Applewood with Telrite in order to create a single, larger provider of telecommunications services for the purpose of facilitating efficiencies to benefit all of Telrite's and Applewood's customers. The Applicants state that service to Applewood's customers will continue uninterrupted.

Furthermore, the Agreement allows customers of Applewood the opportunity to switch their service to a different carrier. Telrite anticipates that none of the customers of Applewood will experience any change in rates due to the acquisition. To the extent that any of Applewood's rates are not presently included in Telrite's tariffs, Telrite will amend its tariffs accordingly to include such rates. As a result, Applicants affirm that the transaction should not cause any inconvenience or confusion to the pre-existing

¹ Telrite provides resold long distance telecommunications services in South Carolina by the authority granted by a certification dated 9/29/04 in Docket No. 2003-278-C.

² Applewood provides resold long distance telecommunications services in South Carolina by the authority granted by a certification dated 1/12/12 in Docket No. 2011-318-C.

customers of either company. Those customers of Applewood who choose not to switch their service to a different carrier will receive service from Telrite.

In addition, the Applicants maintain that the technical, managerial, and financial personnel of Applewood will assist with the transition and integration of the acquired assets after the transaction, and the technical, managerial, and financial personnel of Telrite will continue to serve the transferred Applewood customers with the same high level of expertise.

The Applicants further affirm that continued high quality service to all customers currently served by Applewood is critical to the acquisition. They also claim the acquisition will serve the public interest because it will ensure that current Applewood customers maintain uninterrupted service. Last, Telrite maintains the acquisition will create a heightened level of operating efficiency which generally will serve to enhance its overall capacity to compete in the marketplace and to provide telecommunications services for a greater number of consumers in South Carolina at competitive rates.

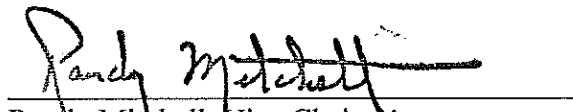
After review of the Application and information contained in the above captioned Dockets, we find that this acquisition is within the public interest and therefore approved. Following consummation of the acquisition, Applewood's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity will be cancelled, and its tariff deemed withdrawn.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


David A. Wright, Chairman

ATTEST:


Randy Mitchell, Vice Chairman
(SEAL)